UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memorandum

TO : Barefoot Sanders
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Division

DATE:

FROM Carl W. Belcher, Chief
General Crimes Section
Criminal Division

SUBJECT: Kennedy Assassination

In the Attorney General's office yesterday, I orally mentioned to you the fact that certain documents were volunteered to the FBI by a local police officer in New Orleans in 1964 and that the same local police officer was now motivated by Garrison to request the FBI to return to him copies of those documents.

I have now found the documents and they are attached. All the documents except the bank account statement seem to relate exclusively to the Carlos Marcello case and suggest no reason why they could not be returned.

One page of the bank statement is of interest. Substantial deposits were made during November, 1963, but the withdrawals were nowhere near as large in amount. Both the deposits and withdrawals could be explained solely on the basis that this individual was employed and pursuant to that employment did travel extensively and apparently paid necessary expenses incidental to his investigative efforts during his travel on the Marcello case.

In addition, we are confronted with the circumstance that Garrison knows these documents exist and may well know the contents of them inasmuch as only copies and not the originals were furnished to the FBI.

The FBI advised me today that none of the documents in question were furnished to the Warren Commission for the reason that they were received by the FBI in 1964 at a time when the earlier thoughts of a widespread plot in connection with the assassination had largely been discounted and they saw no hard evidence that any of these documents were related to the assassination.

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Mr. Kossack and I have discussed the pros and cons of this matter and each of us recommends that these documents be returned to the local police officer by the FBI in the least newsworthy way possible. Your advice on this matter would be appreciated.

Attachments